

REMARKS IN HONOR OF U.S. ARMY  
SPECIALIST MICHAEL C. ROBERTS

## HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2011*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Army Specialist Michael C. Roberts who was killed on August 27, 2011 in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom while serving with the 561st Military Police Company, based at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

Specialist Roberts was 23 years old and was from Watauga, Texas. He graduated from Richland High School in Fort Worth, Texas in 2006 where he played tuba in the band and was a varsity wrestler. Specialist Roberts was the youngest of three brothers to join the Army when he enlisted in November 2007. According to his brother Patrick, Specialist Roberts relished the opportunity to "have a positive influence." Specialist Roberts' first tour was to Iraq in 2009 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a communications specialist with the 1st Cavalry Division based at Fort Hood, Texas. He re-enlisted in 2010 and transferred to Fort Campbell, Kentucky in February 2011.

Specialist Roberts was on his second tour when he was killed. He lost his life to a vehicle borne improvised explosive device that detonated near his patrol. Specialist Roberts was protecting a secured area outside a police station when a vehicle attempted to breach the area. Specialist Roberts engaged the enemy, forcing them to detonate the device prematurely, and preventing them from injuring or killing a large number of fellow soldiers. Specialist Roberts was recognized for his actions by being awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Combat Action Badge. Our nation can never repay the debt we owe to this brave man and his family, who understand firsthand the meaning of service and sacrifice. Specialist Roberts represents the best values of this nation and of the United States Army.

Specialist Roberts is fondly remembered as someone who lived life to the fullest, laughed every day, was extremely generous, and stood strongly for what he believed.

I wish to extend my condolences to Specialist Roberts' parents, David and Kathy, and his brothers Patrick and Brian, and hope that they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on both this grateful nation and his fellow soldiers.

## MARKING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORGANIZED CAMP IN THE UNITED STATES

## HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2011*

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, this summer marked the one-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of organized camp in the United States. Summer camps throughout the nation provide valuable educational experiences and offer the chance for children from all different backgrounds to spend time outdoors, connect with their peers, and learn life-long skills. In the summer of 1861, William Frederick Gunn

and his wife Abigail organized the first summer camp in America by taking a group of kids into the wilderness along the Long Island Sound for two weeks. Since then, thousands of camps have been founded, and 150 years later there are over 12,000 summer camps nationwide. While times have changed, the purpose of summer camp has remained the same—to provide our youth with havens in which to grow and learn in nature.

In the State of Maine, we have nearly 200 camps—most of which are accredited by the American Camp Association—including sleep-away camps, day camps, and specialty camps. More than 18 of those have been operating for more than 100 years. In 1902, Wyonegonic Camps in Denmark, Maine opened its doors to girls and, today, remains the oldest continuously operating camp for girls in the country. Girls' camps play a pivotal role in young women's lives—providing settings in which they can grow confidence and develop as bright young women. Also in 1902, Pine Island Camp for boys opened in Belgrade Lakes, Maine and remains the oldest continuously operating camp for boys in the state. In 1908, two camps were opened by non-profit agencies in Maine: West End House Camp in East Parsonfield and Camp Jordan YMCA in Ellsworth.

Camp is a special place where kids get a chance to re-create themselves, develop independence, be physically active, and learn new skills outside of the traditional school setting. And, through exposure to new experiences, friendships with kids from other states and around the globe, campers gain perspectives on their own lives that augment their education during the school year. Camps are also a place to build lasting friendships—a home away from home where the camp community becomes a second family. In a fast changing world, summer camps continue to be a mainstay of American society—providing kids a time for quiet reflection away from the pressures of growing up in a modern world. As millions of summer campers head back to start another year of school, let's remember the valuable role that summer camps play in the year-round education of children.

## REMEMBERING LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR DR. ROY K. DOKKA

## HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday September 13, 2011*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer condolences upon the passing of Dr. Roy K. Dokka, professor and researcher at Louisiana State University, who died unexpectedly on August 1, 2011. His contributions as an educator in LSU's College of Engineering were invaluable, and he will be dearly missed by his family, peers, and the community.

Dr. Dokka held the Fruehan Family Professorship in Engineering, and was responsible for groundbreaking research during his tenure at LSU. Instrumental in establishing LSU's Center for Geoinformatics (C4G), Dokka served as the center's first Executive Director.

Since 2001, researchers at C4G have been dedicated to studying the causes of coastal erosion in Louisiana and other important geo-

graphic relationships. Use of the Global Positioning System (GPS), along with geodetic leveling, enables C4G engineers to closely study these relationships, providing essential data in understanding many geographic problems our state faces.

Dokka's research contributions continued in 2002 when he spearheaded a cooperative with Louisiana Spatial Reference Center (LSRC) and the National Geodetic Survey-NOAA. Together, this alliance works on creating an advanced positioning system for Louisiana.

Dokka also worked with the state legislature to ensure the efficient usage and application of C4G's resources across Louisiana and provide them with the knowledge to better understand and prevent coastal erosion.

Thanks to the contributions of Dr. Dokka, LSU's C4G will continue to be a valuable asset for government, industry and higher education. The center's work is especially timely considering the opportunities available through Geoinformatics to provide critical information and roadway assessment.

LSU acknowledges the importance of the research activity taking place at C4G, and has expressed its intention to continue and grow the institution in the absence of its founding executive director.

Dr. Dokka left an admirable legacy in his profession, and will be remembered as a vital member of the engineering community and a distinguished citizen of the State of Louisiana.

## APPEAL TIME CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

## HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 12, 2011*

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2633, the Appeal Time Clarification Act of 2011. This legislation provides an important clarification to the law.

Under the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, the law allows 60 days to file a notice of appeal for civil cases if the United States or a federal officer is a party. However, the legislation fails to disclose whether the 60 day period applies to current and/or former federal employees who are sued in an individual capacity.

The Appeal Time Clarification Act of 2011 performs as a means to clarify the discrepancies created by the initial policy. It essentially amends the federal judicial code requirements concerning the time limits for the filing of appeals to any judgment, order, or decree in a civil action, suit, or proceeding.

According to the Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate, as ordered by the House Committee on the Judiciary, H.R. 2633 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. The CBO estimates that enacting the bill "would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply."

There are no solid concerns that have been raised in the House regarding this legislation. However, the Senate Judiciary Committee has expressed its observation that the bill's language regarding individual capacity lawsuits